

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Christopher Stephen BARGE et al.

Serial No. (unknown)

Filed herewith

LOADING APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee, please replace pages 1, 2 and 7 of the specification as originally filed, with replacement pages 1, 2, and 7, as filed in the Article 34 amendment of July 3, 1998. The replacement pages are marked "AMENDED SHEET" and are attached hereto. Please amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Replace all of the claims now in the case with the following new claims:

--16. A frame for use in loading groups of battery plates into respective cells in a box, comprising a plurality of spaced walls defining respective group receiving spaces, the walls being moveable away from and towards each other to allow groups to be inserted in the spaces and subsequently grippingly retained therein and compressed by the walls, and guide means mounted at the lower end of the walls to locate in the cells and form a continuous surface with walls characterized in that guide means extend across the full

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